

(b) the present percentage of population BPL in our country;

(c) whether there is an increase in the percentage of population below poverty line;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether it is not the consequence of new economic policy commenced from 1991 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (e) The Planning Commission estimates poverty at national and state level from the large sample survey data on consumer expenditure collected by the National Sample Survey Organisation. These surveys are conducted once in approximately five years. The years around 1991-92 for which the poverty estimates are available relate to 1987-88 and 1993-94, based on the National Sample Survey data on consumer expenditure of the 43rd and 50th Round respectively. According to these, 38.86% of the population in 1987-88 and 35.97% of the population in 1993-94 lived below the poverty line. The latest estimate of poverty are available for the year 1993-94. As the estimates of poverty after 1991-92 are available for one year only, it is not possible to conclude that the number of poor increased after the commencement of economic liberalisation. Data from the latest large sample survey on consumer expenditure is expected to become available by the end of the year.

Allocation to State Plans by Planning Commission

†3377. **SHRI D.P. YADAV:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has postponed the finalisation of annual plan of the States for the year 2000-2001 in the absence of guidelines with regard to the allocation of funds by the Eleventh Finance Commission;

(b) whether the Planning Commission is facing problem in assessing the known resources of the States; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No Sir. Planning Commission is in the process of finalizing Annual Plans of States for the year 2000-2001 and the same have been finalized in respect of West Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Tripura, Haryana, Rajasthan, Bihar, Sikkim and UT of Pondicherry. Finalization of Annual Plans of the remaining States and UTs is in progress. Finalization of Annual Plans of States was delayed to some extent in order to take into account the views of the Eleventh Finance Commission and the resulting implications for resource availability for the State Plans.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

People below Poverty Line in Uttarakhand

3378. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and percentage of people in Uttarakhand area living below poverty-line and the comparative figures for each State and UT as also the national average; and

(b) the steps taken and being taken to lift this area up to the national level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) and (b) The estimates of poverty are made at national and state/UT level. The latest estimates in this regard are available for rural and urban areas for 32 States and UTs and at national level for the year 1993- 94, as given in the Statement (*See below*). According to this 40.85% of